

Heritage Overlay No.: 025
Citation No.: 030
Place: House, 1374-1404 Gisborne-Melton Road

Other Names of Place: Mayfield, *Hurley House*
Location: 1374 – 1404 Gisborne-Melton Road, Toolern Vale
Critical Dates: 1889
Existing Heritage Listings: None
Recommended Level of Significance: LOCAL



Statement of Significance:

The house at 1374 – 1404 Gisborne-Melton Road is significant as a predominantly intact example of an unassuming Victorian style dwelling, and for its associations with early farming families in the Shire.

The house at 1374 – 1404 Gisborne-Melton Road is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level (AHC D.2). Although slightly altered and unassuming in design (which is typical for a number of timber cottages in the Melton area for the era), the house still demonstrates original design qualities of a Victorian style. These qualities include the hipped roof form, together with the recently added encircling verandah. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the single symmetrical composition at the front, single storey height, horizontal timber weatherboard wall cladding, corrugated sheet metal roof cladding, modest eaves, central timber framed front doorway, timber framed double hung windows and the timber verandah posts.

The house at 1374 – 1404 Gisborne-Melton Road is historically significant at a LOCAL level (AHC A4). Situated on one of a limited number of surviving Melton Shire properties that pre-date the break-up of Melton's large Clarke, Staughton, Taylor, and Patterson pastoral estates, the construction of the house is expressive of both the typical generational change amongst pioneer families, and the general revival of farming, that occurred in the early twentieth century. It is associated with the Burton, Hurley, and Ferris families, pioneering farming families of the Shire.

Overall, the house at 1374 – 1404 Gisborne-Melton Road is of LOCAL significance.